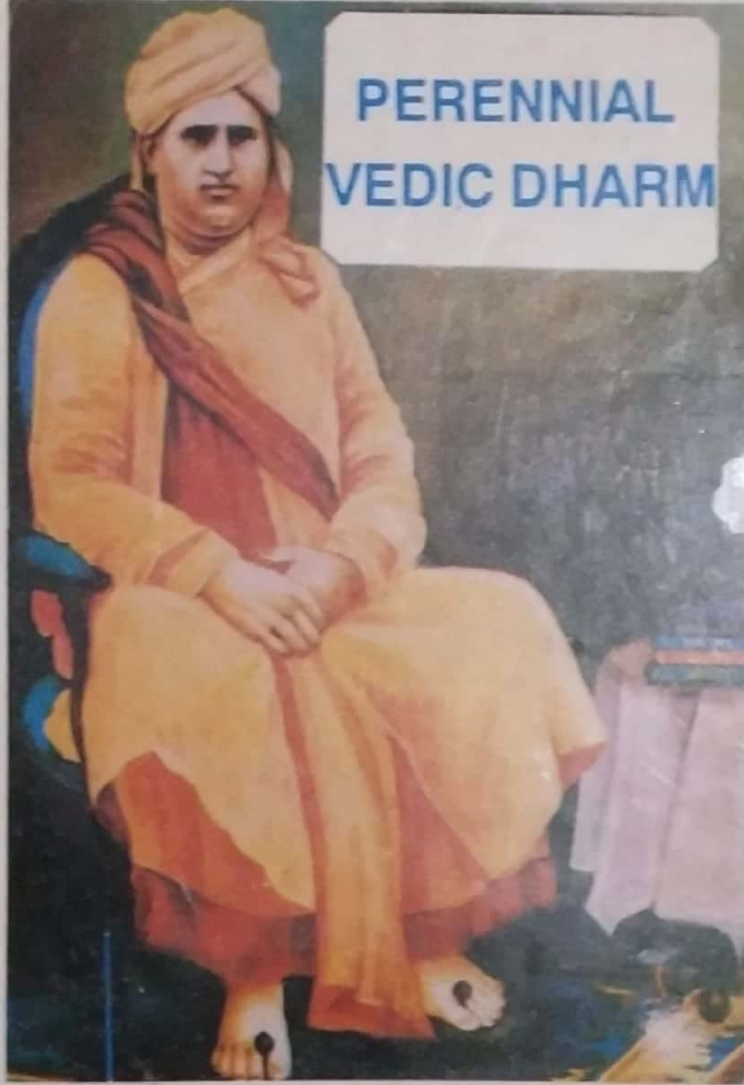
कृण्वन्तो विश्वमार्यम् ।
Let us Make the World worth Living.

Maharshi Swami Dayanand Saraswati

After the battle of Mahabharat, genuine Vedic Dharm started disintegration. Due to superstitious and ignorance many types of immoral practices came into existance.In turn many types of religions such as Zorostrian, Yahudi, Christian, Islam, Baudha, Jain, Charvak etc. founded by different cunning self styled Gurus, Paigambers, Saints etc.Therefore it is a fact that is to be considered that the ancestors of these religions prior to their present form were in some way or the other closely related to the followers of Vedic Dharm and due to improper knowledge, ignorance and superstitious

beliefs these people started in the process of separation from the main stream of Vedic Dharm and in the process they obtained their present forms. Maharishi Swami Dayanand Saraswati could not tolerate this situation and so he tried to bring about reforms by his own efforts. Impressed by his selfless deeds and his thoughts many respected people requested Swami Dayanand Saraswati to establish such an organisation which would give strength to the propagation and publicity of his thoughts. As a result in the year 1875 Arya Samaj Bombay was established in Bombay City and to day it has world wide existence and respect.

Arya Samaj is not a religion or a community, it is an Organisation of the people having moral and ethanic values. Arya Samaj works with the sole intention of well being of entire human race. The main purpose of founding Arya Samaj was to revive Perennial Vedic Dharm in its true meaning and purpose and with that to do good to the entire human race according to the teachings of Vedas i.e. to work for all round betterment of the entire humanity. Where as each individual should not keep himself happy within the physically fit body and mind but must try to make others happy by his deeds. In the ninth testament of Arya Samaj this object has been stressed upon clearly by stating as under :- **"Each individual must not be satisfied by his or her personal betterment but must try to consider the betterment of others as his or her own".**

This is a just and worthy achievement of personal and community betterment and well being of the entire humanity which only can be realised by such dedicated persons who acquire qualities such as true knowledge, truthfulness for one's own deeds and are morally bound to help the human race. Only such persons who have these qualities are capable of being known as 'Arya' and only such an Organisation having such type of people as their members can be known as 'Arya Samaj'. Arya is not the name given to a particular community of human race, or a citizen belonging to a particular country or caste.

Arya Samaj is pledged to fight against injustice, ignorance and immoral values and shall continue to fight for these causes.

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The salient features of the Vedic Dharm in brief are :-

Most of the Indians follow the path of Vedic Dharm described in the four Vedas namely Rigved, Yajurved, Samved and Atharvaved. The Vedas contain all forms of knowledge in a nutshell form which is essential for the betterment of the entire human race. To elaborate the meaning of the vedic knowledge the Sages expanded it in the form of Brahmin epics, Upvedas, 6 Darshan Shastras, 6 Vedantas and 11 Upnishadas etc. to give a detailed identification and in sight of the Vedas i.e. Vedic Dharm..

1. Vedic Dharm is the most ancient amongest all the religions and beliefs practiced the world over. It was propounded by God with the inception of human race and is in existance since 1,97,29,49,094 years.
2. All the Religions and beliefs were started by some Saints, Guru or Mahatma etc. but Vedic Dharm is the only one propounded by God himself.
3. Vedic Dharm advocates to revere a Formless, Omnipotent, Justful God. Revering such a God is worthy and meaningful and reverance to other gods and goddesses is worthless.
4. God is never born and adopts no incarnation.
5. The जीवात्मा (soul) and ब्रह्म (God) are not one but two different entities. Besides these two there is a third entity nature. All these three are perennial.
6. All the aims and objectives of Vedic Dharm are natural and scientific, whereas the best objectives and aims of other religions and beliefs are unscientific and unnatural.
7. Haridwar, Kashi, Mathura, Karbala, Mecca, Medina, Jerusalam, Vetican City etc. can not transintegrate any individual that is possible only by having true knowledge of the self and by practising yoga, serving parents faithfully, keeping good company and attending satsangs (listening the learned person, Sages, Saints, Mahatmas etc.) to tide over sorrowful period.
8. Ghosts, devils etc. have no place in Vedic Dharm. All these are imaginary and due to ignorance.

9. Hell and heaven are not special places. Heaven depicts natural happiness and hell indicates sufferings.
10. Heaven does not have a separate God, Mother, Father, True Teacher, Learned Men, Sun, Earth, Fire, Water, Air etc. are the gods of heaven.
11. Ram, Krishna, Shiv, Vishnu, etc. had been great men they are neither God nor incarnations of God.
12. Happiness or Sorrow that an individual gains is according to the good or bad deeds that one has committed. No bad deeds of a human being is forgiven by God under any circumstance.
13. All the human beings have a right to read Vedas, be it a woman or low cast shoodra.
14. The human society is divided into 4 sections according to the capabilities of an individual and same are named according to their worth to run the human society. (i) Brahmins (intellectuals), (ii) Khashtriya (warriors), (iii) Vaishya (industrious), (iv) Shoodra (not capable of being any of the above three) to serve the three.
15. Everybody is a shoodra at the time of birth immaterial of family back ground in which one is born and later after purification through knowledge (sanskaar) one becomes according to one's capabilities Brahmin, Khashtriya, Vaishya or Shoodra.
16. A person born in a low caste does not become an untouchable. A person who is dirty is untouchable no matter if he is a Brahmin or Shoodra.
17. Vedic Dharm believes in rebirth. An individual's good deeds obtain a human form of life on rebirth and on doing otherwise he obtains the form of animals, birds, insects etc.
18. Bathing in the sacred rivers like Ganga, Yamuna etc. does not help any individual to get rid of sins or bad deeds but following the urders of Vedas human beings can escape from doing evil in the future life but the bad deeds that has already been done can not be redeemed.
19. Each and every Vedic Dharm follower has to perform the following five Mahayagyas (i) Brahm

Yagya (praying to God), (ii) Dev Yagya (performing Hawan), (iii) Pitru Yagya (doing service to parents, mother or father-in-laws, etc), (iv) Bali Vaishvadev Yagya (feeding cow, dog, birds, ants and helpless widows and orphans, disabled persons etc.), (v) Athithi Yagya (to obtain good advice from learned persons, sages, preachers and in return do service to them and treat them well).

20. Service to living parents, teachers, learned persons etc. is called Shradh. Food, clothes, money etc. offered to Brahmins in the name of dead one's can not be received by them.
21. 16 Sanskaras are meant to purify the human [illegible] and soul. An individual must adopt to do Sanska[illegible] such a Jat-Karm, Nam-Karm (Bapti[illegible] Yagyopveet etc.
22. Idol worship, untouchability, magic-mantras, sacred threads, sacred lockets, horoscope, palmistry, performing of nav-grah worship, polygamy, child marriage etc. are prohibited in Vedic Dharm.
23. An Individual after obtaining true knowledge of Vedas, starts selfless service to the mankind and makes contact with God by adopting true form of worship, then the individual's ignorance vanishes and when he is enlightened, attains Mukti (Salvation). Such purified soul remains in Mukti for an unlimited period and when he desires to become human being, he attains that form without difficulty.
24. Vedic Dharmis on meeting greet each other by uttering 'Namaste'.
25. In the Vedas different names have been attributed to God, among them Pranav = 'Om' is foremost.

Note :- To obtain more information regarding the above mentioned objectives read books written by Swami Dayanand Saraswati such as Satyarth Parakash, Rigvedaadi Bhashya Bhoomika, Sanskar Vidhi etc. These books are available in every Arya Samaj the world over.

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Arya Samaj Temple Bombay's beautiful Entrance

Magnificient New Building of Arya Samaj
Bombay's Mulund Branch